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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/883,598	06/18/2001	Pavitra Subramaniam	5306P033	1999

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EXAMINER

LU, KUEN S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2177

DATE MAILED: 11/20/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Applicati n N .

09/883,598

Applicant(s)

SUBRAMANIAM ET AL.

Examiner

Kuen S Lu

Art Unit

2177

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 June 0201.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Geary (U.S. Patent 6,070,160).

As per claims 1, 21 and 27, Geary teaches the following:

“receiving search criteria entered by a user” at col. 17, lines 23-29 and 62-66 by using search module to select input and evaluating selected items as search criteria;

“performing a single search on a plurality of databases for data records matching the search criteria” at col. 15, lines 5-9 by using a single search to identify commonly recorded information in unrelated fields of different databases; and

“generating search results comprising of the data records matching the received search criteria” at col. 15, lines 5-9 by identifying the commonly recorded information.

As per claims 10 and 16, Geary teaches “receiving a search category and a search keyword entered by a user” at col. 32, lines 4-5 by using Boolean operation on keywords in the input fields; “performing a single search on at least one database and at least one attached document for data records matching the search category and the search keyword”

by linking documents as database fields at col. 7, lines 31-34, and then conducting a single search on databases at col. 15, lines 5-9; and

“generating search results comprising of the data records matching the search category and the search keyword” at col. 45, lines 5-9 by saving the records meeting all search criteria.

As per claims 2, 17 and 22, Geary teaches “receiving at least one search category” at col. 17, lines 62-66 by using a process to evaluate an item identification has been used a search criteria.

As per claims 3, 18, 23 and 28, Geary teaches “receiving search criteria further comprises receiving at least one search keyword” at col. 32, lines 1-5 by returning a search keyword.

As per claims 4 and 11, Geary teaches “passing the received search criteria to a Virtual Business Component (VBC) if the user requested the single search to be performed on at least one external database” at Fig. 10, elements 450, 453, 454 and 464, col. 15, lines 5-9 and col. 17, lines 29-33 and 47-51 by constructing system for single search, passing the search criteria to the index search module serving as the virtual business component, responding with a selection and returning research results.

As per claims 5 and 12, Geary teaches “passing the received search criteria from the Virtual Business Component to a search execution business service” at Fig. 10, elements 450, 453, 454 and 464, col. 17, lines 29-33 and 47-51 by constructing system for single search and responding with a selection.

As per claims 6 and 13, Geary teaches "using a search execution business service to search the plurality of databases for data records matching the search criteria" at Fig. 9, element 446 and col. 19, lines 12-16 by using index search service to search databases.

As per claims 7 and 14, 19 and 29, Geary teaches "sending the search results to a frame so that the search results can be listed on a user interface" at col. 41, lines 8-10, 16-18, col. 45, lines 6-9, and col. 47, lines 35-40 by presenting output object to user through user interface and saving all records meeting the search criteria.

As per claims 8, 15, 20 and 30, Geary teaches displaying content of a search result selected from the search results listed on the user interface" at col. 34, lines 18-22 by showing the results of the current keyword search.

As per claims 9 and 26, Geary teaches "searching at least one attached document for data records matching the search criteria" at col. 7, lines 31-34 and col. 15, lines 5-9 by importing documents and linking them as database fields before performing the search.

As per claim 24, Geary teaches "a search adapter to adapt to a selected search engine and to generate search results comprising of the data records matching the received search criteria" at Fig. 8, element 404, col. 17, lines 26-29 and col. 20, lines 14-19 by using a search engine and performing the search.

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record

A. U.S. Patent No. 6070160

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

B. U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0147704

C. U.S. Patent No. 6401118
D. U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0156779
E. U.S. Patent No. 6553310
F. U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0138481

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kuen S Lu whose telephone number is 703-305-4894. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Friday.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on 703-305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

KL

Patent Examiner

November 14, 2003


JOHN BREENE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100